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## TIME AND ITS INVESTMENT

How many of our students realize that all they get out of life with all that it means to them—their success and happiness—must come out of the present moment; that they can never live a second before or after? It is only in the present moment that you live, and all you do, all you achieve, must come right out of that moment.

No-one has ever yet been able to get into the future by even a fraction of a second. No-one can ever get back into the past by a fraction of a second.

When we consider that the really creative part of our lives is reduced to a comparatively short time—a few hours, days or years—we get some idea of the value of time, be it in hours, days or years.

Time is representative of great value. Time is education, knowledge, and knowledge is power. Take care of the seconds and the hours will take care of themselves. Comparatively few people realize that the aggregate time wasted, frittered away, would lift one from a life of limitations to a career of unlimited advancement.

Every one of our student readers have a vague idea that you will in some way make your life worth while. You have no intention of throwing it away, of making it cheap or common. In a general way you expect to accomplish some big thing, but there are only a few who realize that if the life is to be successful every day must be a success—must be devoted to something worth while. Just an indefinite ambition or desire to live a noble life, to achieve things, will not accomplish a great deal. Each day should be planned in detail and the plan adhered to rigidly, and unless you do stick to a plan it usually dwindles away until you are simply drifting along.

The more you know, and remember that our students are here to learn, to advance, to unfold, the nearer you are to possession of power. Every bit of knowledge that you get in your academic classes, in your vocational work, in your society, in your religious activities, and general upbuilding in morals and character, places you that much nearer to the possession of power. Every bit of knowledge you acquire enlarges and enriches your own lives by just that much. Every little self-investment makes you better off, so much

larger and fuller, and just so much better able to cope with life.

We wish it were possible for us to arouse each one of you, to burn into your very consciousness, the marvelous results secured by being persistent in acquiring knowledge, by concentrating your energies toward upbuilding your life, by consecration your very being to self-culture, self-improvement, self-enlargement. Think of the possibilities you have right here!

Of all the habits that are formed in youth, while you are forming character, none will prove more helpful in after years than that of using your time for self-improvement. If you secure this habit, if the habit is strongly intrenched in your natures before you finish school life, it will steady you, strengthen your power, and keep you from yielding to the thousand and one temptations which will beset you when you start out to fight your big battle with the world. You will have such a strong ambition and unflinching determination to get on that nothing can stand in your way. If each one of you will grasp the importance of this and concentrate your energies, and patiently foster all that is good during your school days, we will answer for your after life.

Waste of time at Chemawa or elsewhere is waste of character, waste of life. Can you realize that when you kill time you are killing your chance, killing your opportunity, killing your manhood, your womanhood? There is no finer aim in this world than to make of one-self a larger man or woman, a nobler citizen. Is there anything more improving than ceaseless endeavor to be somebody worth while, to stand for higher and better ideals?

Young people, it is the constant absorption of knowledge from every possible source that makes educated persons, and it is a great variety of knowledge that makes you broad and sympathetic.

Happy is the young man or young woman who has formed the fixed habit of self-improvement, who is always trying to make him- or herself a little better informed, a little larger mentally, a little better prepared for life's opportunity when it comes. What one gets out of life depends largely upon the preparations for it, and there is no investment that one can make which equals self-investment in growth, knowledge and power.